

Kui-Chiu KWOK  
"Meltblowing Method And Apparatus"  
Atty. Docket No. 8010-61

Appl. No. 09/528,357  
Examiner L. Tentoni  
Art Unit 1732

77. (NEW) A meltblowing apparatus comprising:

a first fluid orifice in a body member;

a plurality of second fluid orifices in the body member,

5 the second fluid orifices disposed symmetrically on not more than two substantially opposite sides of the first fluid orifice, at least one second fluid orifice on one side of the first fluid orifice and at least one second fluid orifice on the other substantially opposite side thereof,

the first and second fluid orifices each have a corresponding fluid conduit disposed in the body member.

B1 78. (NEW) The apparatuses of Claim 77, portions of the body member proximate the first fluid orifice devoid of fluid orifices, the portions of the body member devoid of fluid orifices disposed symmetrically on substantially opposite sides of the first fluid orifice between the second fluid orifices.

79. (NEW) The apparatus of Claim 77, the first fluid orifice protrudes relative to the second fluid orifices.

80. (NEW) The apparatus of Claim 77, the body member comprises at least two plates.

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81. (NEW) The apparatus of Claim 77,  
a plurality of first fluid orifices in the body member,  
each of the plurality of first fluid orifices having second fluid orifices  
disposed symmetrically on not more than two substantially opposite sides thereof, at  
least one second fluid orifice on one side of each first fluid orifice and at least one  
second fluid orifice on the other substantially opposite side thereof.

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82. (NEW) The apparatuses of Claim 81, portions of the body member  
proximate each first fluid orifice devoid of second fluid orifices, the portions of the  
body member devoid of second fluid orifices disposed symmetrically on substantially  
opposite sides of the first fluid orifice between the second fluid orifices.

83. (NEW) A meltblowing apparatus comprising:  
a first fluid orifice in a body member;  
a plurality of at least two second fluid orifices in the body member, the  
second fluid orifices disposed on substantially opposite sides of the first fluid orifice,  
the first and second fluid orifices each have a corresponding fluid conduit  
disposed in the body member,  
portions of the body member proximate the first fluid orifice devoid of  
fluid orifices, the portions of the body member devoid of fluid orifices disposed on  
substantially opposite sides of the first fluid orifice between the second fluid orifices.